

Revelation 7: The 144,000 Sealed of Israel

Revelation 7 | Sunday, May 17 | Revelation Series

Hal Lindsey Media Ministries · hallindsey.com

OVERVIEW

Revelation 6 ends with a terrified world hiding in the rocks and asking, “who is able to stand?” Revelation 7 is the answer. Hal teaches the chapter as an interlude — one of the pauses running all through Revelation where the chronology stops and the Holy Spirit traces the important persons and events of the seven-year period instead of moving the action forward. In this one, four angels hold back the four winds of the earth, another angel carries the seal of the living God, and no harm may touch the earth, the sea or the trees until 144,000 bond-servants of God are sealed on their foreheads. Running underneath the judgment is what Hal calls the most important thing in the book, and the thing most readers miss entirely: God always gives grace before judgment.

KEY SCRIPTURES

Revelation 7:1–3 — Four angels hold the four winds; no harm until the bond-servants are sealed

Revelation 6:16–17 — “Hide us from the wrath of the Lamb ... who is able to stand?”

Ephesians 1:13–14 — Sealed with the Holy Spirit until the day of redemption

Isaiah 64:6 — We are all as unclean things, and even our righteousnesses are as filthy rags

2 Peter 2 — The fallen angels bound in tartarus

Daniel 9 — Israel set aside; of 490 years, 483 have run, leaving seven

2 Thessalonians 2 — The Antichrist cannot be unveiled until the Church is taken out

Revelation 8 — A third of the trees — and all of the grain — burned

Revelation 13 — The other seal, on the hand or the forehead

KEY TERMS

Interlude — a pause where the chronology stops and the whole picture of an event or a person is given instead

The image of God — will, intellect, emotion, moral reason, and everlasting existence — possessed by every human being from the moment of conception, and by angels as well

Tartarus — the Greek name for where the most vicious and out-of-control fallen angels are bound; some are released during the seven-year period

The seal of the living God — the living Holy Spirit placed inside the believer, as in Ephesians 1:13–14

The Rapture — what Hal calls “the great snatch” — every living believer taken out in the twinkling of an eye

The great parenthesis — the Church age, unmentioned in the Old Testament, running between Israel’s 483 years and the seven still left on its clock

The Great Tribulation — the second half of the seven-year period — the part Hal calls the one that is so terrible

“Until” — a word Hal makes a big point of: something is held off until something else happens

REVIEW QUESTIONS

Answer from the message itself. Every answer is in the teaching.

1. What question does the terrified world ask at the end of Revelation 6, and what does Revelation 7 do with it?

2. What is an interlude, and how is it different from the chapters around it?

3. What do the four angels of verse 1 control, and what are they holding back?

4. What five things make up the image of God in man, and from what moment does a human being possess it?

5. Who led the angelic rebellion, what does his name mean, and how many angels followed him?

6. What are the two categories of fallen angels, and where are the worst of them held?

7. Why does Hal make such a point of the word “until”?

8. Hal says the most important thing in this book is the thing most readers miss. What is it?

9. According to Ephesians 1:13–14, what is the seal of the living God?

10. Who are the 144,000, and what is Hal's reason that they are Israelites rather than Gentiles?

11. What does Hal mean by “the great parenthesis,” and how does Daniel 9 set it up?

12. In the chronology Hal lays out, what comes between the Rapture and the unveiling of the Antichrist?

DISCUSSION AND REFLECTION

1. Hal says God always gives grace before judgment, and calls it the most important thing in the book. Where do you see that pattern in Revelation 7 — and where have you seen it in your own life?

2. The people of Revelation 6 know exactly whose wrath is falling, and still they hide rather than repent. Why do people run from God instead of to Him?

3. Isaiah 64:6 says that even our righteousnesses are filthy rags. What does that do to the idea of being good enough for God to accept?

4. Hal says that if grace were not real, “I wouldn’t be here — I’m sure I would be dead.” How does a testimony like that change the way you hear this chapter?

5. God snatches out every living believer, and immediately seals 144,000 witnesses — He never leaves Himself without a witness. What does that say about your part while you are still here?

6. Hal points ahead to another seal in Revelation 13, on the hand or the forehead. Set beside the seal of God, what does each one say about who owns a person?

MEMORY VERSE

“He has sealed us with the Holy Spirit of God, until the day of redemption.”

— Ephesians 1:13–14, as Hal reads it in this message